Mr. Wrench), "Gretna Green," "The Boarding-House," "The Steward," "Old Customs," "Five Hours at Brighton" (the first of his pieces that was played), "The Lottery Ticket," "My Uncle," "Batchelors' Wives," "Hints to Husbands," "Fire and Water," and "The Bull's Head," also the English words for the operas of "Robert the Devil," "Queen of Cyprus," and "Somnambula." The latter opera, by the way, was written mostly by the bedside of Madame Malibran, in the mornings, to adapt the words to her pronunciation.

As an architect, also, Mr Beazley's practice has been great in connection with the stage, having built more theatres probably than any other modern practitioner. Amongst them are the St. James's Theatre, the Lyceum, the City of London, the Birmingham, and two in Dublin. He gave drawings also for one in the Brasils (similar to St. James's), and one in Belgium—thirteen or fourteen in all. The interior of Drury-lane Theatre, the external colonnade there, and the Strand front of the Adelphi Theatre are also by him. His other works were numerous, and include Studley Castle, the seat of Sir Francis Goodricke; a castle in Inverness, some additions to the University of Bonn, the works on the South-Eastern Railway, especially at London-bridge, the Warden's Hotel, and the Pilot House, Dover (of which we gave a view some time ago), the stations on the North Kent line, and the new town at Ashford.

In the early part of his life, the subject of this notice served as a volunteer in the Peninsula, where his adventures were of a very singular character. On one occasion, for example, he awoke and found himself in the dead-house at Lisbon, laid out for burial. To facilitate the escape of the Duchess d'Angoulême, he was sixty hours in the saddle, and crossed the Pyrenees at the head of her horses, with sometimes a bayonet at his breast. He had never visited Italy.

In conversation, Mr. Beazley was singularly sparkling and amusing: his wit was both refined and ready. We cannot attempt to justify this character by examples, for such matters are seldom chronicled, and when they are, usually lose much of the point which the moment and the manner give them. A friend once took him into his wine cellar, and pointed out, amongst its contents, some brandy as having been his poor father's. "Spirit of my sainted sire," breathed Beazley. A new staircase at Sir Henry Meux's (pronounced Muse), he would call *Gradus ad Parnassum*—stairs to the muses. And when, walking in a client's park, the lady of the domain expressed her wonder that the rooks were so seldom quiet, he hazarded the opinion that it was because they had *caws* for conversation.

His amiability endeared him to all who knew him, and his industry must have been great, notwithstanding a mode of life which led many to regard him simply as a man of pleasure.

ELECTION OF SURVEYOR, UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, AT KINGSTON-UPON-HULL.

It may be in the recollection of many of your readers that parties were invited by advertisement in your columns to send in their testimonials of qualification for the several officers to be appointed under the provisions of the Public Health Act for Hull; Saturday, the 18th inst. at noon, being the time limited for so doing, and the following Monday being the day appointed for the town council, as the local board of health, to enter upon the elections. The proceedings on that occasion, so far as the election of a surveyor was concerned, for which I was a candidate, were thus reported to me on the following day:—

"I attended at the meeting: there were fifty-five applicants, comprising some names of note, and in consequence of the weight of business before the meeting they came to the strange resolution of reading only the applicants' letters, *not their credentials*; which perhaps was not so absurd as it appeared, inasmuch as every man had no doubt predetermined for whom he should vote. The party elected is the person who has recently surveyed for one of the extinct local boards."

Now I feel confident there is not one member of that body but would scout with indignation the supposition, that were he in want of a clerk he would be at the cost of advertising, and then, for mere form's sake, be at the trouble of glancing over the various applications such advertisement would bring, whilst he had all the while determined to take his neighbour's son: I say, not a single member of that board would, in his individual character, commit such an act of folly by himself, or of duplicity by others; and yet, from some unaccountable cause, the same men, acting collectively, will commit the most unwarrantable and unjustifiable acts. Why the Hull Board of Health should have advertised for a surveyor, with a predetermination in favour of one party, is most surprising (and more especially through such a medium as The Builder, which, from its circulation amongst professional and scientific men, was sure to bring a host of applicants), for they cannot be ignorant that the law requires no such means to be employed: it simply states that certain officers must be elected, without in any way prescribing *how* they shall be found. The board, therefore, if they wished to elect a townsman, fitting or not fitting, had a perfect right to do so, without making any appeal to the public; but they had *not* a right, by advertisement, to put fifty-five professional gentlemen to the trouble of sending their testimonials to be treated with the contempt they met with; and it is to be hoped that no fifty-five engineers will be duped a second time by any such allurements, but will first take the precaution to be assured that open and honourable competition is intended.

In a communication to the writer, dated 19th October, 1848, the General Board of Health thus express themselves:—"The Board have been made deeply sensible, from the very fact of their existence, and by the extensive failures, and the worse than waste of public money in works of town drainage that have been planned and carried out by engineers and architects of even very high professional standing and general ability, that the qualifications requisite for laying out new drainage areas, for conducting works of house and land drainage, and water-supply, and the application of refuse as manure, are very special, and demand a particular kind of scientific knowledge and practical ability." Whether the existing works at Hull bear testimony to having been planned and executed with that ability for the purpose which at the present day is deemed essential to success, I know not: if they do, then by all means let credit be given where due; and I, for one, would be the last to seek to supplant an efficient public officer. No! Let authorities in such cases act openly and honestly, and elect, at once, to the new offices under the Act, their tried and faithful servants, in the full assurance that in so doing they are acting with strict regard to rectitude both towards individuals and the community over whose affairs they preside; and let them no longer impose upon the public, and mock a host of expectant applicants, by unnecessary and uncalled-for advertisements.

A Candidate.

ROARING CHIMNEYS.

Can you give me any advice in the following case?

My health is becoming injured from disturbed rest at night, in consequence of the *roaring* of my bed-room chimney, when there is even the least wind: in a gale of wind it is like the loudest thunder. The fire draws remarkably well, and never smokes in any change of wind. My house is situated about a quarter of a mile from a river to the N.E., and the ground rises very gradually from it past the house, and for a mile beyond to the S.W. Either from the situation of the house or the build of the chimneys, every one on the first floor roars. A. S.

*** Many cases of this kind have come under our notice, in all of which we have invariably found the chimney-pots to have been formed of metal, or some *thin* material the vibration of which caused by the current of air passing on it, produced the noise complained of. The locomotive steam whistle is a striking illustration of this effect. If the chimney-pots of our correspondent are of thin material, we should recommend that they be either carried up to the top in brickwork, or thick cement pots substituted.

ANCIENT ADVICE TO PORTRAIT PAINTERS.

Observing, in your paper of the 11th ult., an article on "Sculpture Competition," and again, on the 24th, "Advice to ye Young Student in Architecture," I beg to hand you an extract from an old work, which, I presume, is the same referred to by your correspondent of the 11th. It speaks of the sister art, painting, and is headed—

"Series, No. 3, or

Admonition to ye novices in ye cunning art of painting of ye portraiture, albeit, 'tis a goodly but over English fashion, to have ye family of ye old and ye young hung up around thy hall, like as in ye good old tymes, ye goode old kyings were wont to hang up ye people.

Imprimis.—Be ye sitter ye lady or ye gentleman of goodly wealth, but of low degree, place ye primo, divers jewels of no common sort in great profusion, with ye sightly tyme piece for ye lady, glittering with unheard of precious stones.—Ye thus show much mighty wealth and gain a speedy reputation for thy paine.—Of ye face, mind ye but little that belongs to ye customer, and thereunto let thy thoughts run only to ye Apollo of Belvedere and ye Venus of Medeci, as ye case may be.

Secondo.—Let ye perspective run as ye customer may desire, for be it, they have a perspective of their own, and like as I admonished ye archetecturas (in my secondo discourse) for ye faithful regard of ye brilliant coloures, so do I say to ye cunning painters, let ye portraits glow like unto ye setting sun, and ye dresses like unto ye many colored rainbow.

Terzzo.—Make well apparent in ye background ye costly columns of ye mansion, with ye park and pretty deer skipping in ye sunlight. Suit ye picture with a mighty costly and overwrought frame of gilded wood. Albeit thy work be careful in ye painstaking, thy border will be ye most admired.

Discourse ye 4th may treat of ye taste of ye travelling gentlemen who have seen ye goodly sights of ye ancient city of Rome, and are made thereby ready handed and cunning Judgers of *all ye arts*."

E. G. P.

RHYMING NOTES OF AN ARCHÆOLOGICAL MEETING.

The Architectural and Archæological Society of Liverpool made their annual excursion this year to Shrewsbury: last year they visited Chester. The following lines were written, and are supposed to have been recited, on the occasion of *this* year's excursion:—

Again we meet! a year has fled
Since we have met before;
And Time has o'er our lifeway spread
His woof of peace and stour:
This passing hour itself will bear
Trace of our purpose high;
And kindly thought and greeting share
With hoar antiquity.

Last year we met at Deon fair,
The legioned city, West Chester,—
Where the dark Dee rolls by:
The city with the perfect wall,
Camp of the Roman and the Gaul,
And home of chivalry.

Our orisons at matins made
Within St. Werburgh's* holy shade—
Where erst our fathers' fathers prayed;
The anthem, wrought with chastened feeling,
"Through full-toned choir and organ pealing,"
Did round the shelt'ring arches roll,
Dissolved the bonds of self-control,
And stirred the inner depths of soul.
There studied we the relics fair,
Which time from past to present bare,
To teach us that our sires were men.

* St. Werburgh's Abbey, now the Cathedral of Chester, in which the members of the two societies met at morning prayers.

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